UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.4/2002/105
29 November 2001

Original: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Fifty-eighth session
Item 17 of the provisional agenda

THE ROLE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Note by the Secretariat

In its resolution 2001/72 of 25 April 2001, entitled "The role of good governance in the promotion of human rights", the Commission on Human Rights requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to reiterate the invitation made to States in resolution 2000/64 to provide practical examples of activities that have been effective in strengthening good governance practices for the promotion of human rights at the national level, including activities in the context of development cooperation between States, for inclusion in a compilation of indicative ideas and practices that could be consulted by the interested States when required, and to extend it to United Nations and other relevant international bodies.

2. Accordingly, on 18 June 2001, a note verbale was transmitted by the High Commissioner for Human Rights to all Member States, requesting relevant information for inclusion in a compilation of indicative ideas and practices. On 15 June 2001, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights transmitted a similar invitation to United Nations and other relevant international bodies.

3. As of 15 November 2001, replies have been received from Australia, Azerbaijan, Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, Switzerland, Thailand, the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, and two non-governmental entities.

4. These replies have been added to those received from Australia, Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, Denmark, Georgia, Mexico, Norway, Portugal and New Zealand, pursuant to resolution 2000/64, and are available for consultation in the files of the Secretariat.

5. In resolution 2001/72 also, The Commission invited the High Commissioner for Human Rights, where appropriate and relevant, to draw on the material received in her work and to inform the Commission of the utility of the material in this respect.

6. Accordingly, the High Commissioner for Human Rights informs the Commission that given the comprehensiveness of the material received to date, the Office has established that a dedicated effort will be necessary to process and condense the responses into a manageable and user-friendly compilation of indicative ideas and practices. The Office has requested extrabudgetary resources for this undertaking in the 2002 Annual Appeal, and will continue to amass replies for eventual inclusion in a reference compilation of good governance ideas and practices.